

SHOW ME VALUE
SHOW ME RETURN
SHOW ME MISSOURI

PLASTICS MANUFACTURING

The plastics industry in Missouri manufactures synthetic resins, plastic materials, and nonvulcanizable elastomers. This industry includes thermoplastics such as polypropylene, and thermosets such as polyester. Industries served include furniture, packaging, construction and mattress manufacturers.



Plastics Missouri

In 2002, Missouri's plastics employment ranked 18th in the country with more than 27,600 jobs, including chemical and plastics engineers, machine operators, administration and sales. The St. Louis and Kansas City metro areas are the most highly specialized in this industry; and total Mo. plastics industry shipments totaled \$5.1 billion in 2002. Manufactured products range from handles for bikes and other exercise equipment, packaging materials, foam bedding and cushions, caps and foam carpeting pads.



THE FUTURE OF PLASTICS IN MISSOURI

- ⇒ Employment among rolling machine operators is expected to grow by 5.26% in the surging St. Louis metro area; heat treating equipment operators 5.17%, both in the next six years.
- ⇒ The high demand for plastics in the motor vehicle, military application, and medical devices markets will keep the industry growing substantially over the next five years.
- ⇒ Research and development within the plastics industry is expected to create more job opportunities. The key to plastics is keeping them lightweight yet durable.
- ⇒ Missouri plastics companies such as Buckhorn, Buckhorn Rubber Products, Contico, Nordenia USA, Semco, and Nike IHM are established global leaders. PolyOne and Spartech have recently entered the global market by expanding into Asia and Europe.



Spartech expects to open its first plant in China by late next year.



Missouri's plastics industry, one of the state's top 10 export categories, grew 20% in 2003.

SPARTECH CORP.



Clayton-based Spartech Corp. is a leading producer of engineered thermo-plastic materials, polymeric compounds, molded and profile products. Spartech recently acquired three new divisions of Wisconsin-based VPI, with annual sales of about \$110 million. The company is expanding globally with plants in China, Europe, and Mexico. www.spartech.com



SINCLAIR & RUSH INC.



Located in Arnold, Sinclair & Rush is one of the largest dip molding companies in the world. There are five divisions, including Stock Caps, manufacturing caps and plugs; and Castle Bay, manufacturing iron covers for golf clubs. Sinclair & Rush employs over 150 people and generates annual sales in the \$100-500 million bracket. On-site facilities include development, fabrication and manufacturing. www.sinclair-rush.com

FALCON FOAM



Perryville's Falcon Foam changed its name from Versa-Tech in 2003, and specializes in protective packaging and on-site manufacturing of economic and versatile packaging material. By using polystyrene, Falcon can package shipments from one piece to multiple truckloads. www.versatechinc.com

POLYONE CORP.



PolyOne is the world's largest polymer services company, providing a single source for polymer, elastomer, colorant and additive products. PolyOne recently earmarked \$20 million for plant expansion in China and Europe. The company is also planning \$15 million for North American plant expansion, spread among its 46 plants. www.polyone.com

MISSOURI DIVISION OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & TRADE SERVICES & SUPPORT

Site Location Services: Missouri's Business Development and Trade Division offers comprehensive project management services to assist businesses with location solutions.

Global Trade & Investment: The Division operates offices in Mexico, Japan, and China to facilitate global trade and investment.

Financial Assistance: Business Development and Trade also serves as a portal for qualifying firms seeking additional financial assistance to support market expansion and capital expansion projects. The Division is directly responsible for administration and implementation of a wide variety of incentives programs.

Community Access: The Division serves as a conduit for expediting linkages between business and community economic development representatives.

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plastics in Missouri

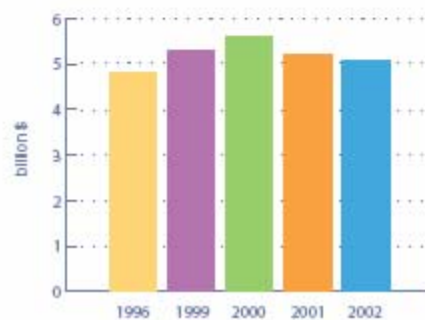


plastics industry jobs in Missouri: 27,607



Employment in Missouri's plastics industry totaled 27,607 jobs in 2002. Missouri ranks 18th in the country in plastics employment.

plastics industry shipments in Missouri: \$5.1 billion



Plastics industry shipments in Missouri totaled \$5.1 billion in 2002. Missouri ranks 21st in the country in plastics shipments.

Source: www.plasticsdatasource.org/facts/mo